

CHAMBER MONTHLY



4300 W. Streetsboro Rd.
Richfield, Ohio 44286
www.richfieldchamber.com

Jim Koewler, President
Lisa Mancini,
Executive Secretary

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NOVEMBER 2013

Greetings!

November is almost here, frost is on the pumpkin (and the windshield.) It's a bit early, but I hope you all have a Happy Thanksgiving. Personally, I give thanks for the chance to live and work in Richfield. This is a great place!

In anticipation of the great meals at Thanksgiving (and then again in December,) let your children and grandchildren enjoy their Halloween treats. They don't need your help, and you don't need the calories. (I bet you always wanted diet advice from an overweight guy.)

WE NEED YOUR INPUT. The Executive Board is trying to plan the 2014 luncheon calendar. There are two venues in Richfield that can host our group, the Taverne of Richfield and the Days Inn and Suites. The Executive Board is trying to figure out how best to support both of these local businesses while not losing luncheon attendance in the process. Please look for an email soon with a link to a survey. Then, please actually complete the survey. (It will have only a few questions. It will not take much time.) We will use the survey to guide our planning for 2014.

If you'd like the chance to provide more input, we'd like to have you on the Executive Board. We are accepting nominations for President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer for 2014. Nominate yourself or a good friend.

Could your medical office use a little free help? Medical Administrative Specialist students are preparing for six-week unpaid internships that are a part of their two-year program at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center. They have acquired skills and knowledge in the areas of medical terminology, medical office procedures, medical billing and record-keeping and computer applications. They have been learning how to maintain patient records, file, and schedule patients. These student office professionals are now ready to put what they have been learning to work in the office/reception area for a doctor, dentist, hospital or other medical facility. Students are available from 11:30 to 2:30 Monday through Friday. Hosts are responsible to provide an opportunity for interns to use their skills in a medical environment and complete an evaluation at the end of the six-week period. If you would like to consider hosting a student for an internship, please contact CVCC's Job Placement Liaison Thressa Brown for more information (tbrown@cvcworks.edu or 440-746-8252).

Thanks go out to Maureen Zappala for her discussion of being a hero and a
Continued on next page

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Jim Koewler



**LET'S DO
LUNCH!**
at the Taverne
of Richfield

**WEDNESDAY,
November 6, 2013**

Countryside Conservancy

11:45 Informal Networking
12:00 Light lunch served
12:30 Speaker
1:00 Adjourn

at the Taverne of Richfield

Members admitted free with a reservation.

Please R.S.V.P. to
330-659-3300 by November 4 .

Non-members bring \$11 check payable
to Richfield Chamber of Commerce
No-shows will be invoiced \$11 for their reserved lunch.

*Invite an associate!
Bring your business cards
to share.*



Nominate Richfield 2014 Business of the Year

The Chamber of Commerce will honor the 2014 Richfield Business of the Year at the Chamber's annual banquet. The Chamber Board of Directors is accepting nominations for this award. Large or small Richfield businesses can be nominated and businesses can nominate themselves.

To nominate a business, please send us:

- Your name and contact information
- The name of the business you are nominating
- The owner or CEO of that business.
- His or her contact information.

Then describe in 300 words or less how the business meets ANY or ALL of the criteria that follow:

1. This business demonstrates success and exceptional performance in business practices.
2. This business has been recognized in its industry or by an employee or business organization.
3. This business has made an economic impact on Richfield, the region or the state within the last one to three years.
4. This business has demonstrated corporate citizenship and/or community leadership.
5. This business overcame a diverse or extraordinary circumstance.
6. This business fills a unique void in the community.

**Please submit your nomination
no later than December 31, 2013.**

It can be emailed to: mail@richfieldchamber.com or mailed to:
Richfield Chamber of Commerce,
4300 W. Streetsboro Rd., Richfield 44286

President's Corner Continued
cheerleader toward others in your work. On November 6, we welcome Heather Roszczyk, Education and Marketing Manager for Countryside Conservancy, where she oversees all marketing efforts and manages Countryside U, an education program designed to inspire, inform, and mobilize the next generation of farmers, food producers, and local food lovers in Northeast Ohio. Our luncheons take place at the Taverne of Richfield on the first Wednesday of each month and start at 11:45 with informal networking. The formal meeting starts at noon.

The member benefit I'd like to mention this month is website design services by GHI Internet Services. Visit <http://www.noacc.org/benefits/web-design/> for details on this benefit. Through our membership in the Northern Ohio Chambers of Commerce (NOACC,) we have leveraged the buying power of hundreds of chambers and thousands of employers to bring you a preferred rate for this valuable service. Learn more from our website and from NOACC's web page at <http://www.noacc.org/benefits/employee-wellness/>.

Please visit our Facebook page. Better yet, please "like" our page. Yes, the Richfield Chamber of Commerce has joined the 21st century with a Facebook page. Check us out. Sonya Raybould, of the Taverne of Richfield, set up the page for us.

We also have a LinkedIn group, titled Richfield Ohio Chamber of Commerce. Membership in that group is limited to Chamber members.

As always, if you have material you'd like us to include in the newsletter, please submit your story via mail@richfieldchamber.com. We will give members up to 100 words per newsletter to discuss their business, a promotion, or an event. (Please do not ask us to treat you as a regular columnist, though, or to attach anything to the newsletter.)

I'll see you around town.
Take care,
Jim Koewler

Early Renewal Options

Early renewal is an option Anthem is making available to small group employers in advance of coming health care reform. This option allows employers to modify their current renewal cycle, moving their renewal from the month of their Original Effective Date to December 1, 2013. We understand that health care reform will generate many questions for employers. The early renewal option allows interested employers and their brokers the time to navigate the changes brought on by health care reform and figure out the best plan and cost options.

Here's how it will work:

Anthem new clients with effective dates of August 1, 2013 - November 1, 2013 can renew effective December 1, 2013. Changes in risk factor, base rate and/or demographic adjustments and benefit changes may apply.

Anthem Specialty coverage renewal dates will change too. That means any Anthem dental, vision, disability and life plans you have will be changed to match your new medical renewal date.

Changing your renewal date allows you to:

- Lock in your current benefits a little longer
- Keep your plan stable during changing times
- Focus on running your business and leading your company
- Align your medical and Anthem Specialty coverage renewal dates

To change your renewal date or for more information please contact your broker or Anthem sales representative.

This information is brought to you through collaboration between your chamber, NOACC and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield

Vicky Hawke, Executive Director
Northern Ohio Area Chamber of Commerce
216-447-9900 Toll Free 866-466-6222
www.noacc.org

Business Spotlight



The Pike Agency has been serving families and businesses in Ohio for over 23 years, With friendly knowledgeable staff we can handle all of your insurance needs.

The Pike Agency
3807 Brecksville rd Ste #1
Richfield, OH 44286
allstate.com/chrispike

Steve McAlear
Personal Lines Manager
Office 330-470-0245
Cell 330-354-1888
Fax 330-470-0245
stevemcalear@allstate.com
allstate.com/chrispike



Richfield Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony

“Come Home for the Holidays” and participate in Richfield’s Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, November 29. The festivities, sponsored by the Richfield Civic Organization, will begin at 6:00 p.m. on the southeast corner of Broadview Road and W. Streetsboro Road with the traditional tree lighting and singing of carols. Following the arrival of Santa, the revelers will head over to the Masonic Hall for refreshments and a chance to enjoy some holiday camaraderie with friends and neighbors. Younger participants will have the opportunity to visit with Santa and some of his helpers from the North Pole.



Richfield Chamber of Commerce Board Members

President – Jim Koewler,
The Koewler Law Firm
Vice-President – David Swift,
Group Management Services
Treasurer – Joe Mazur,
JW Mazur Group
Secretary – Eileen Sass,
Sass Accounting Services
Past-President – Ralph Waszak Sr.,
Village of Richfield
Sweet Corn Ride chair –
Sue Serdinak, ScripType
Links for Education chair –
Karen Smik
Town Trust Liaison – Jim Smith,
Exit 11 Truck Tires
Scholarship committee chair –
Wendy Pollarine, PNC Bank



2014 "LINKS FOR EDUCATION" GOLF OUTING

The 2014 "Links for Education" Golf Outing will be held on Wednesday, June 18, at St. Bernard's Golf Club in Richfield. The outing raises scholarship funds for deserving Revere High School students. Since the event's inception, approximately \$77,000 has been awarded!

Our planning committee will begin its monthly evening meetings in January. If you would like to be involved at the ground level to help plan this fun and most worthwhile event, please contact Karen Smik at 330-659-4750 or kls1650@roadrunner.com

Lunch and Learn for all community members

Thurs, Nov 14, 12:00-1:00 p.m. at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center. In collaboration with The Cleveland Clinic Independence Family Health Center and Marymount Hospital learn about common interactions with prescription and over-the-counter drugs and facts about the seasonal flu vaccine from James Behler, Pham. D. Free event. Includes light lunch prepared by our Culinary Arts students. Reservation required. Register by Nov 7 at <http://tinyurl.com/CVCC-11-14-13> or RSVP to Marie Elias at melias@cvcc-works.edu or 440-546-8272.

BUSINESS BOOKS

For those of you that have time for only one business-related book a month, the Richfield Branch Library has gone into the shelves to narrow down trending title suggestions.

Your Network is Your Net Worth: Unlock the Hidden Power of Connections for Wealth, Success, and Happiness in the Digital Age

by Porter Gale
c. 2013 Atria Books.
ISBN: 9781451688757

I never gave it much thought, until now, just how valuable a professional network is. Networking is more than showing off an over-stuffed rolodex or having the popularity status of +500 "friends" on Facebook. What good is all that if you never take the time to connect with those folks? Arguably, the importance of maintaining a strong network is just as valuable to you as to the amount of money and time you invest in customer service, employee retention, and the equipment needed in your line of work. Porter Gale, in her book: *Your Network*, explains how so.

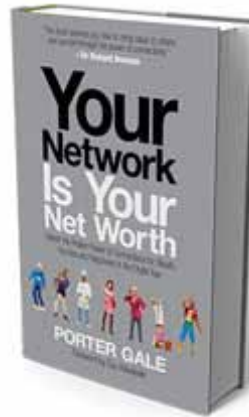
This new type of networking is going beyond "using" people to sell what you've got. Networking today is not a stepping stone (or a stepping-on) to get yourself ahead. Oh, you will still benefit, but like a pay-it-forward-effect, it will be in ways you'll never would have imagined

or seen coming. There is longevity in the networking today, simply because of the deep and meaningful ways everyone wants to interact. In the most basic form, the author shows the ways in which your new network approach will create an inner circle of those that you can call upon for creative ideas, talents, and skills. Further, it is expected that you will be there to give your ideas, talents and skills just as often. The author will guide you on how to generate such a "power-pocket" circle(s).

'Tis the season for holiday parties and gatherings perfect to practice your networking. And there is a New Year's resolution to consider as well. Read *Your Network* before you head out or tweak a Resolution, and you'll step out with the mindset of making powerful connections for wealth, success, and happiness.

Reviewed by Jennifer Stencel, Branch Manager of the Richfield Branch Library.

Boring Meetings Suck was borrowed from the Massillon Public Library thanks to the Search Ohio library service. Search Ohio allows you to borrow from other Ohio Libraries outside the Akron-Summit County Public Library System for free.



Upcoming Speakers

Lunch is held at The Taverne of Richfield

December 4
Senator Frank LaRose